

1. (Four Times Amended) A vacuum process apparatus for processing at least one workpiece comprising a chamber with[:]

at least two openings defining respective opening areas [for one of treating and handling said at least one workpiece thereof]; and

a transport device[, comprising] having

a drive shaft rotatable around a rotational axis of said drive shaft;

at least two conveyors [arranged at said transport device] for at least one workpiece each[, said transport device comprising], and a transport arm for each conveyor [projecting from] operatively associated with said drive shaft;

said arms being operatively coupled to said conveyors to move said conveyors independently of each other relative to said drive shaft and to have at least a radial movement component perpendicular to the drive shaft rotational axis via encapsulated, independent drives, said drives controlling closing and opening of said openings with movement of said conveyors relative to said drive shaft.

Please amend claim 3 as follows:

3. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said conveyors are additionally movable [at least one of] parallel to said drive shaft [and of normally with respect to said drive shaft].

Please amend claim 18 as follows:

18. (Amended) The chamber of claim 16, wherein said conveyors are additionally movable [at least one of] parallel to said rotational axis [and of normally with respect to said rotational axis].

Please amend Claim 27 as follows:

27. (Amended) The chamber of claim [16], 26 wherein said holding means is formed by spring means acting radially with respect to said pin.

Please amend Claim 30 as follows:

30. (Twice Amended) A vacuum chamber with at least two openings and a workpiece transport arrangement with which at least one workpiece within the chamber is selectively brought into a position adjacent to one of said openings, whereby the transport arrangement is provided within the chamber rotatably around a rotational axis and carries at least two members for holding a workpiece each, a rotation drive is provided to rotate said workpiece transport arrangement, and at least two displacement drives are provided for displacing said at least one workpiece each with respect to said transport arrangement whereby said members are selectively brought into a position aligned with one of

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said openings by rotation of
said transport arrangement and
from such position a workpiece
is displaceable towards and from
said opening by one of said
displacement drives, and said
member and said displacement
drives are operatively mounted
on said transport arrangement
rotation drive, said
displacement drive being
arranged to control closing and
opening of respective ones of
said at least two openings.

Please amend Claim 31 as follows:

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31. (Amended) A vacuum
chamber with at least two openings
and a workpiece transport
arrangement with which at least
one workpiece within the chamber
is selectively brought into a
position adjacent to one of said
openings, whereby the transport
arrangement is provided within the
chamber rotatably around a
rotational axis and carries at
least two members for holding a
workpiece each, a rotation drive
is provided to rotate said
workpiece transport arrangement,
and at least two displacement
drives are provided for displacing
said at least one workpiece each
with respect to said transport
arrangement whereby said members
are selectively brought into a
position aligned with one of said
openings by rotation of said
transport arrangement and from
such position a workpiece is
displaceable towards and from said
opening by one of said
displacement drives in a direction
with a radial component relative
to said rotational axis, and said

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displacement drives are operable
independently of each other so as
to control closing and opening of
said opening.

Please amend Claim 32 as follows:

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45 32. (Twice Amended) A
vacuum chamber, comprising
at least two openings
defining respective opening
areas; and a transport device
operatively arranged relative to
the at least two openings and
including a member movable
relative to a rotational axis
thereof, at least two conveyors
for transporting at least one
workpiece each, and at least one
linear drive for each of said at
least two conveyors being
between said movable member and
a respective conveyor of said at
least two conveyors and
configured to linearly move said
respective conveyors relative to
said movable member
independently from other
conveyors of said at least two
conveyors, said at least one
linear drives being arranged to
control closing and opening of
said at least two openings.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

A Request for Permission to Amend the Drawings is
submitted herewith.